



TESTIMONY
OF THE
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
TO THE
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE

February 18, 2010

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local governments - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to testify before this joint committee on issues of concern to towns and cities.

H.B. 5059 "An Act Concerning the Appointment of Municipal Assessors"

Among other things, this proposal would mandate local assessors be granted a special protection under a "good cause" provision. The precedent HB 5059 seeks to establish within the municipal state statutes would be alarming.

Municipal leaders are elected and accountable to the voters of their community. They need managerial discretion to meet the needs of their constituents. A "good cause" mandate, as proposed in HB 5059, would drive up the costs for municipalities that seek to replace their assessors, as it is a term that will have to be argued before a court.

Connecticut's existing labor laws already adequately protect municipal employees from malicious or capricious acts.

CCM urges the Committee to **oppose HB 5059**.



If you have any questions, please call Gian-Carl Casa or Bob Labanara of CCM at (203) 498-3000